

(d) the details of steps taken to produce those drugs in the country?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAMESH BAIS):** (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise, in view of (a) above.

(c) Almost all medicines are in the free list of imports. Imports are made by individual importers from various sources on commercial considerations.

(d) Industrial licensing for all bulk drugs and formulations cleared by the Drug Controller General of India has been abolished except in a very few cases. Higher return for basic stage production and exemption from price control for production based on indigenous R&D have been provided in the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1995.

### **Regional imbalance in production of urea**

**2795. SHRIMATI CHANDRA KALA PANDEY:** Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Eastern zone has fallen victim of gross regional imbalance in the production of urea;

(b) if so, the reasons and the steps proposed to remove this regional imbalance; and

(c) if not, the production and consumption figures of urea in four zones of the country for 1998-99 and 1999-2000?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAMESH BAIS):** (a) to (c) Following table gives production and consumption zone-wise:

Name of Zone	(in Lakh MT)			
	1998-1999		1999-2000	
	Production	Consumption	Production	Consumption
Southern	27.63	38.69	29.32	40.52
Western	80.52	52.45	85.67	52.03
Eastern (including North-East)	4.32	28.43	4.28	31.66
Northern	80.44	84.39	79.03	85.30

The country has achieved nearly 95% of self-sufficiency in urea production in 1999-2000. The new gas based plants which have come up in 1990's along the Hazira-Bijaipur-Jagdishpur(HBJ) pipeline consequent to which urea production has become concentrated in the Western and Northern States. However, it has not affected supply of urea to other States including States in Eastern Zone. Urea demand of the Eastern States has been met from supply from indigenous plants as well as imports.

As per the Industrial Policy of 24th July, 1991, no industrial licence is required for setting up of fertilizer projects except that in case of fertilizer Public Sector Undertakings/Co-operative Societies, approval of the Government is required for incurring capital expenditure beyond the delegated powers. At present, one revamp project of Namrup plant of Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Ltd. (HFC) in Namrup, Assam is under implementation for additional capacity of 3.28 LMT of Urea at an estimated cost of Rs. 350 crore is under implementation.

### **Chemical Accidents Rules, 1996**

2796. SHRI S. RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Chemical Accidents (Emergency Planning, Preparedness and Response) Rules, 1996 prescribe multitiered crisis response groups; and

(b) if so, what steps have taken to set up Emergency Response Centres in densely industrialised pockets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAMESH BAIS): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government provides financial assistance, on a cost sharing basis between the Central Government, the State Government and the industry, for setting up of Emergency Response Centres. So far financial assistance has been provided for setting up four Emergency Response Centres in the country.

### **Supply of Polyester Chips to M/s JBF Industries Ltd. by IPCL**

2797. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Ltd.